

Managed Dove Hunting Opportunities

Wisconsin's public wildlife areas provide plentiful dove hunting opportunities, chiefly in the southern and eastern portions of the state, in natural habitat, oldfields, and sharecropped land. In addition, there are a number of fields on various properties which are managed specifically for dove hunting. These typically consist of sunflower fields, some of which have portions mowed, providing attractive feeding areas for dove and cover for hunters. Attractiveness of these fields to doves can be affected by a number of agricultural, weed, and weather variables, so a hunter should scout the fields prior to hunting to see if particular sunflower fields are mature and productive with limited weed competition and significant bare ground. Dove hunting is a great way to introduce someone new to the shooting sports, so consider mentoring a young or new hunter this fall.



Keep in mind that other hunters will likely be using the fields and additional hunters come and go regularly throughout the day and may not be readily visible. As with any hunting opportunity, be sure of your target and what is beyond. Because doves are migratory birds, HIP registration is required. Also, help to keep your wildlife areas clean by picking up any spent shells and boxes. Remember, non-toxic shot is required when hunting waterfowl and for mourning doves on Department managed lands.

The following fields are specifically managed for doves. Links to more information on a specific property, including descriptions, maps, and contact info, can be found with a quick search on the dnr.wi.gov website using the keyword *wildlife areas*.

Property Name	Acreage	Species Planted	Specific Field Location			
			County	Latitude	Longitude	Special Management Activity
Badfish Wildlife Area	4	Sunflowers	Dane	42 52 17	89 15 46	Fall mowing
Deansville Wildlife Area (East)	5	Sunflowers	Dane	43 13 32	89 06 33	Fall mowing
Deansville Wildlife Area (West)	6	Sunflowers	Dane	43 13 35	89 07 02	Fall mowing
Brooklyn Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Green	42 50 22	89 29 04	Fall mowing
Browntown-Cadiz Springs SRA	6	Sunflowers	Green	42 35 00	89 45 19	Fall mowing
Albany Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Green	42 43 42	89 30 48	Fall mowing
Brooklyn Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Green	42 47 30	89 28 51	Fall mowing
Evansville Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 53 03	89 18 27	Fall mowing
Evansville Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 45 40	89 17 02	Fall mowing
Avon Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 34 48	89 19 57	Fall mowing
Avon Wildlife Area	4	Sunflowers	Rock	42 31 50	89 20 42	Fall mowing
Afton	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 36 02	89 03 06	Fall mowing
Lima Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 47 45	88 52 39	Fall mowing
Lima Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 50 31	88 50 01	Fall mowing
Footville Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Rock	42 39 28	89 15 30	Fall mowing
Northfield Fisheries Area	5	Sunflowers	Jackson	44 30 01	91 06 26	None
Besadny Fish and Wildlife Area	8	Sunflowers	Kewaunee	44 31 00	87 35 27	None
Peter Helland Wildlife Area	16	Sunflowers	Columbia	43 32 04	89 15 22	Fall mowing
French Creek Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Columbia	43 38 07	89 20 35	Fall mowing
Duck Creek Public Hunting Grounds	11	Sunflowers	Columbia	43 29 55	89 11 60	Fall mowing
Paradise Marsh Wildlife Area	9	Sunflowers	Columbia	43 28 14	89 02 54	Fall mowing
Pine Island Wildlife Area	26	Sunflowers	Columbia	43 31 36	89 33 48	Fall mowing
Lower WI State Riverway (Waneks)	7	Sunflowers	Richland	43 12 07	90 35 48	Fall mowing
Lower WI State Riverway (Pine Road)	7	Sunflowers	Grant	43 11 30	90 28 40	Fall mowing
Lower WI State Riverway (Windward)	7	Sunflowers	Richland	43 11 48	90 37 44	Fall mowing
Waterloo Wildlife Area	4	Sunflowers	Dodge	43 13 33	88 56 24	Fall mowing
Waterloo Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Jefferson	43 11 41	88 56 56	Fall mowing
Lake Mills Wildlife Area	4	Sunflowers	Jefferson	43 02 58	88 58 11	Fall mowing
Rome Pond Wildlife Area	6	Sunflowers	Jefferson	42 59 30	88 35 08	Fall mowing